



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

Committee Bill No. 866

LCO No. 5161

05161SB00866ENV

Referred to Committee on Environment

Introduced by:
(ENV)

AN ACT CONCERNING FARM TRANSFER AND FARM SUCCESSION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2005*) (a) There is established
2 within the Department of Agriculture a Farmland Transfer and
3 Succession Planning Program to establish a database of farmers who
4 have notified the department that they intend to retire or sell their
5 farms. The database shall be compiled and maintained by the
6 Department of Agriculture and shall be made available to the public
7 on the department web site. Persons interested in starting an
8 agricultural business or persons interested in expanding a current
9 agricultural business may register and place their names, contact
10 information and intentions regarding such business on the web site.
11 The department shall make reasonable efforts to facilitate contact
12 between parties with similar interests.

13 (b) The Department of Agriculture shall post educational materials
14 regarding the Farmland Transfer and Succession Planning Program on
15 the department web site, including, but not limited to, a description of
16 the program, information regarding farm transfer and farm succession
17 planning, family farm estate planning, farm transfer strategies, farm

18 leasing, formation of farm partnerships and information regarding
19 starting a farm business.

20 (c) The Department of Agriculture shall conduct workshops
21 regarding the Farmland Transfer and Succession Planning Program
22 and the materials and information specified in subsection (b) of this
23 section at least four times per year.

24 Sec. 2. *(Effective July 1, 2005)* The sum of twenty five thousand
25 dollars is appropriated to the Department of Agriculture, from the
26 General Fund, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2006, to implement
27 the program established in section 1 of this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To provide advice and estate planning assistance to farmers and their families so that more farms can remain in families and continue to be used for agriculture.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. WILLIAMS, 29th Dist.; REP. FRITZ, 90th Dist.

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